

Eastern Bluebird Report 2018

Warner Park Nature Center, Friends of Warner Parks, and Metro Parks and Recreation



Eastern Bluebird pair



7-day old Eastern Bluebird nestling



Newborn Eastern Bluebirds

Warner Park Eastern Bluebird Project

March - September 2018, coordinated by Diana McLusky

- Bluebird Project coordinated by Diana McLusky with volunteer bluebird team members John Kell, Sue Shallow, Sandy Bivens, Kim Bailey, & the Cook family (Terry, Laura, Cody, & Elizabeth)
- Warner Park Bluebird Nest Box Project established in 1936 by nationally-known ornithologist Amelia Laskey. This project is one of the oldest, continuously monitored bluebird projects in the country
- 50 nest boxes, located around the park perimeter, are monitored weekly by bluebird team volunteers, who drive many miles each season & keep meticulous records of nest box activity & band the nestlings and adults
- 1st Eastern Bluebird egg of 2018 in Warner Park was laid on 23 March
- 203 Eastern Bluebirds hatched from 234 eggs & 181 nestlings fledged successfully— a success rate of 77.4% from eggs to fledge. Of those, we banded 161 nestlings. Ten nests were lost to predation
- Banded 9 adult Eastern Bluebirds & recaptured 8 previously banded bluebirds. Of the recaptured birds, 2 were banded in 2014 as nestlings, 4 banded as adults in 2016, 1 banded as adult in 2017, 1 banded as adult in 2018
- Other species also used the nest boxes this year including Carolina Chickadee with 1 nest & 4 young fledged; Tufted Titmouse with 2 nests & 11 young fledged & 1 previously banded adult recaptured; Tree Swallows with 4 nests & 15 young fledged
- Tree Swallows were first recorded nesting in Warner Park in 2008. Despite the increase in nesting Tree Swallows, Eastern Bluebirds continue to thrive in the park
- Memberships with the North American Bluebird Association & the Tennessee Bluebird Society



The Cook family joins the bluebird team



Cody Cook & Diana McLusky check nest boxes



Bluebird team: John Kell, Sue Shallow, Sandy Bivens, Kim Bailey, & Diana McLusky